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COMIX WORLD 218. April 1, 1982. © Clay Geerdes, Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707. All Rights Reserved. Logo by George Erling. George has collected some of his unpublished stuff in a zine called EXTRA COMIX. $1 from him, 357 Newark Pompton Turnpike, Pompton Plains, N J 07444.* My new pubs are: THE VAULT OF HUMOR (Jim Williams' cover, art by Miller, Siergey, Holman, Dissmeyer, et al). This one is 16 pages, digest-size. $1.37 pp.* New CW minis include: Dissmeyer's TWO-FISTED CARTOONIST, BABYFAT 35, and LITTLE BOOK OF BIG TITS 5. Minis run 50¢/stamp and I send a list of all of them with most of the orders.* CREATION CON in Oakland at the Hyatt, 455 Hegenberger Rd, April 9-10. I will attend.* Robert and Suzanne Williams were in town for a few days this February. Williams signed some of his books and talked to fans and friends. Comics & Comix sponsored the event and it was well attended. Among those who stopped in to say hello were Ed Watson (Lovetree artist--his work appears in all the issues of CALIFORNIA COMICS), Bob Sidebottom, Al Davoren, S. Clay Wilson, Greg Irons, Tim Boxell. Nice gossipy afternoon. Sidebottom, who owns a collectors' store in San Jose, said he would publish a new issue of CALIFORNIA COMICS (the 4th) when the backing came through. I'm working on a piece on the Japanese robots and Zahia came by to pose with them. She's a belly dancer, teacher, and has long been a part of the comix scene. Told me she was on her way to a party where she was going to visit with Patricia Moodian who is now playing bass guitar with a punk rock band. Pat edited the first issue of WIMMEN'S COMIX back in '71. Hi Pat.* CEREBUS 46 and 47 out. At your local dealer.* S. Clay Wilson interviewed in February HIGH TIMES. Wilson talks to Robert Williams in March HEAVY METAL.* VORTEX 1 is a beauty. $2.50 pp from 493-A Bloor St W, Toronto, Ont. Canada M5S 1Y2.

-Clay Geerdes

ED WATSON ©1983

THE COMIX WAVE LETTER.

Beginning in April of this year, I will publish one issue of COMIX WORLD and one of COMIX WAVE. Readers will get both by mail as usual. WAVE will contain plugs for all the minis and newave comix you've sent me. Artists who want a COMIX WAVE brochure should send me an SASE.

C.G.

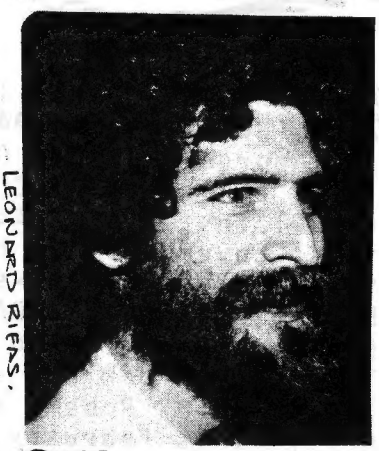
50¢/STAMP / CW MINI.

I Saw It -- review by Diana Schutz

This is the story of Keiji Nakazawa, Japanese cartoonist and survivor of the 1945 devastation of Hiroshima. Originally published in black and white in the September '72 issue of the Japanese comic book *Shonen Jampu*, *I Saw It* is the English translation of Nakazawa's autobiography, presented in full, sometimes horrific colour, courtesy of Leonard Rifas' EDUCOMICS.

Though Nakazawa has previously delivered his anti-nuclear message to the American public in the *Gen* series (*Gen of Hiroshima* and *Barefoot Gen*), the current re-telling of his story in the first person is a more intimate look at the bombing of Hiroshima and its long-ranging effects on the author. The first half of this 50-page comic chronicles the life of young Keiji, a frightened six-year old at the time of the bombing. Through the child's eyes we see the events of that fateful day, the crushed buildings, the raging fires, and grotesque-looking survivors, mobile corpses crying for water, dragging their melted skin along the ground. We follow Keiji as he runs screaming for his mother and gasp with him as he stumbles over a disembodied arm, hearing the bones crunch beneath his feet. We learn of his mother's despair and frustration as she tells her young son how she was unable to rescue Keiji's father and younger sister and brother, buried in the fallen ruins of their house, and how she was finally dragged away to safety, tormented by the death cries of her family as the fires consumed them. We see the aftermath of the bombing: the days of hunger and poverty, the charred bodies littering the streets, the illnesses due to radioactive fallout and malnutrition. No, this comic is not pretty--but neither is war. And just as the innocent are not spared the atrocities of war, nor does Nakazawa spare his reader.

The second half of *I Saw It* focuses on Keiji's troubled growth, his resentment of the bomb and the changes it has wrought in his young life, and his psychological salvation through cartooning. Life was not easy for Keiji Nakazawa, but driven by the hard times and his determination to survive, the artist managed to somehow beat overwhelming odds, and continues today to practice his craft. His past remains, however, and by bringing it to his reader, he educates us all in the horrible destructive power of nuclear weapons and the necessity for their elimination.

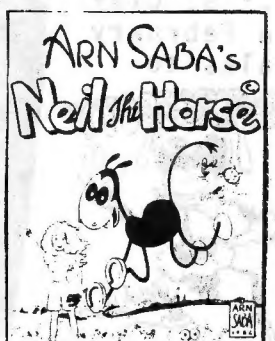


EDUCOMICS publisher Leonard Rifas is, in no small way, Nakazawa's cohort in his efforts for peace and enlightenment. EDUCOMICS' earlier books, however, have all been published in black and white--a format which is, generally, a lesser seller in the comic marketplace. With *I Saw It*'s transition to four-colour, and the consequent probability of enhanced sales, Rifas has taken a very significant step towards educating the masses.

So do yourself a favour and put out the paltry couple of dollars for *I Saw It*. You may find yourself appalled, but you'll learn something in the process. You owe it to yourself and now's the time. Remember: 1984 is right around the corner.

DOGBOY 1, STANDARD COMIC. 20¢ PP FROM CAT-HEAD COMICS, POB 982, EUGENE OR 97440

NEXT ISSUE, DI REVIEWS NEIL THE HORSE!



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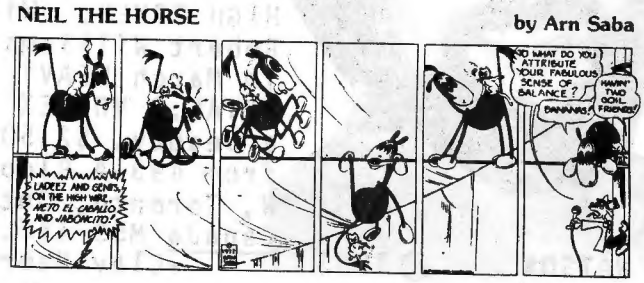
NEIL THE HORSE by Arn Saba


LADIES AND GENTS, ON THE HIGH WIRE, METO EL CABALLO AND JABONCITO!
SO WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE YOUR FABULOUS SENSE OF BALANCE?
BANANAS!
HAVIN' TWO DOHL FRIENDS!